

WEIKLE & Co.

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

June 30, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th St, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: WC Docket No. 14-58
FCC Form 481 – Carrier Annual Reporting
Pineville Telephone Company

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This FCC Form 481- Carrier Annual Reporting is being submitted on behalf of Pineville Telephone Company (“Pineville” or “Company”) in accordance with FCC Rules 54.313 and 54.422. This version is the Redacted – For Public Inspection version.

Pineville, by its authorized representative, hereby requests confidential treatment of the financial annual report, which is redacted in the ECFS submission. Section 3005 of FCC Form 481 requires a privately-held rate-of-return carrier to attach a full and complete annual report of the company’s financial condition and operations pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2). This attachment contains competitively sensitive data that Pineville maintains as confidential and does not normally make available to the public. Release of this information would have a substantial negative impact on the Company. Pineville seeks confidential treatment of its financial annual report pursuant to the March 22, 2016 *Protective Order* in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58. The *Protective Order* specifically covers information filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2).

A paper version of this letter along with the Form 481 containing confidential information is being filed with the Office of the Secretary. This REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION copy is being submitted electronically through ECFS.

If there are any questions, I can be reached at 704.699.9451.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jerry Weikle

Jerry Weikle
Consultant to Pineville Telephone Company

JERRY L. WEIKLE
President

151 SPRING STREET NW
CONCORD, NC 28025-4749

jweikle@windstream.net
704.699.9451

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	230494
<015> Study Area Name	PINEVILLE TEL CO
<020> Program Year	2018
<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Jerry Weikle
<035> Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	7047827738 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net
Form Type	54.313 and 54.422

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<210> For the prior calendar year, were there any reportable voice service outages? No

[illegible]

**(300) Unfulfilled Service Request
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<300> Unfulfilled service request (voice)

0

<310> Detail on attempts (voice)

Name of Attached Document

<320> Unfulfilled service request (broadband)

0

<330> Detail on attempts (broadband)

Name of Attached Document

(400) Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers
Data Collection Form

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net
<400>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. <div>Offered only fixed voice</div>	
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	0 . 0
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	
<430>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. <div>Offered only fixed broadband</div>	
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	0 . 0
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	

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<500>	Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	Yes
230494NC510 .pdf		
<510>	Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	
<515>	Certify compliance with applicable minimum service standards	

**(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations
Data Collection Form**

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<600>	Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610>	Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	230494NC610.pdf

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FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
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<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	9.99

[illegible]

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[illegible]

(800) Operating Companies		FCC Form 481
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<810>	Reporting Carrier	Pineville Telephone Company
<811>	Holding Company	Town of Pineville
<812>	Operating Company	Pineville Telephone Company

[illegible]

(900) Tribal Lands Reporting
Data Collection Form

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<900> Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N) No

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

<921>

- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability
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<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification Yes

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance 230494NC1010.pdf

Name of Attached Document

<1020> Broadband comparability certification Yes - Pricing is no more than the most recent applicable benchmark announced by the Wireline Competition Bureau

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance 230494NC1030.pdf

Name of Attached Document

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
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<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

Yes

<1130>

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers**Lifeline****Data Collection Form****REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

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230494NC1210.pdf

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

<1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, ☒

<1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, ☒

<1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. ☒

(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation**Data Collection Form***Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers***REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

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Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2011> 3rd Year Certification 47 CFR §54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 2017 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support.
- <2022> Recipient certifies, representing year three after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2023> The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2024A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2024B> Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2025A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2025B> Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 2 for year three) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-73, paragraph 35 (May 22, 2013).
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

Data Collection Form

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

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July 2013

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017C> Total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2016.

<2018> Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(A)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

<2019> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(C)

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Select from the drop down menu or check the boxes below to note compliance with 54.313(f)(1). Privately held carriers must ensure compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Progress Report on 5 Year Plan		
(3009)	Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)	
		Yes - Attach Certification
(3010A)	Certification of Public Interest Obligations {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}	
(3010B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
(3012A)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}	No - No New Community Anchors
(3012B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}	(Yes/No) <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	(Yes/No) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:		
(3015)	Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3016)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	(Yes/No) <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:		
(3019)	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3020)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3021)	Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:		
(3022)	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3025)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)

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Financial Data Summary

(3027) Revenue

(3028) Operating Expenses

(3029) Net Income

(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)

(3031) Total Assets

(3032) Total Debt

(3033) Total Equity

(3034) Dividends

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4005 Rural Broadband Experiment

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission's public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

4001. Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)

4003a. RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

4003b. Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)

4004a. Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

4004b. Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

Certification - Reporting Carrier

Data Collection Form

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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	PINEVILLE TEL CO
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE
Date	06/26/2017
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	Tammy Vachon
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	Telecommunications Director
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	7048892001 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	230494
Filing Due Date for this form:	07/03/2017
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Certification - Agent / Carrier
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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date:
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Name of Authorized Agent Firm:	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Date:
Name of Authorized Agent Employee:	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

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Attachments

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Pineville Telephone

Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules Compliance Explanation

Line 510

Certification

Pineville Telephone Company certifies that it complies with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules for both voice services and broadband services.

Service Quality

The North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) has service quality rules in place. These service quality rules are found in NCUC Chapter 9, Rule R9-8. The NCUC does not have rules in place regarding broadband service quality. Pineville Telephone Company is regulated by the NCUC although the current form of regulation no longer requires Pineville to report results. Pineville continues to follow procedures put in place when it was required to meet and report on objectives.

Here is a link to Chapter 9 rules located on the NCUC website:

<http://www.ncuc.net/ncrules/Chapter09.pdf>

Rule R9-8 requires that certain service objectives be met and that company results be reported to the NCUC on a quarterly basis within 45 days after the end of each quarter. Pineville has established procedures and processes to meet Rule R9-8 objectives even though it is no longer required to report results to the NCUC.

The NCUC objectives are listed below:

Rule R9-8. Service objectives for regulated local exchange telephone companies and competing local providers (CLPs).

(a) Service Objectives. Each regulated local exchange telephone company and CLP shall perform and provide service in accordance with the following uniform service objectives:

<i>Measure No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Objective</i>
1	Intraoffice completion rate	99% or more
2	Interoffice completion rate	98% or more
3	EAS transmission loss	95% or more between 2 and 10 dB
4	EAS trunk noise	95% or more 30 dBrnc or less
5	Operator "0" answertime	90% or more of calls answered within 10 seconds or ASA of 6 seconds
6	Directory assistance answertime	85% or more of calls answered within 10 seconds or ASA of 6 seconds

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7	Business office answertime	ASA of 30 seconds
8	Repair service answertime	ASA of 30 seconds
9	Initial customer trouble reports	4.75 or less per 100 total access lines
10	Repeat reports	1.0 report or less per 100 total access lines
11	Out-of-service troubles cleared within 24 Hours	95% or more
12	Regular service orders completed within 5 working days	90% or more
13	New service installation appointments not met for Company reasons	5% or less
14	New service held orders not completed within 30 days	0.1% or less of total access lines

Consumer Protection

Pineville Telephone Company is committed to maintain the privacy of customer information. In addition to protecting personal information the company is obligated to protect information on how customers use their services. Pineville Telephone Company follows all requirements the FCC has mandated concerning Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI). Pineville files annual CPNI compliance certifications with the FCC as required.

There are no NCUC or state rules in place for broadband consumer protection. Pineville Telephone Company does follow federal laws relating to broadband service. Pineville Telephone Company does publicly disclose broadband terms and prices for customers.

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Pineville Telephone
Functionality in Emergency Situations
Line 610

Backup Power

Pineville Telephone has a natural gas backup generator to maintain power to the administrative building and central office equipment at all times. In the event commercial power is lost then batteries power the network for three minutes before the generator is engaged. This generator is designed to operate indefinitely during a commercial power outage. This generator is automatically tested on a weekly basis for proper performance.

Traffic Reroute

During times of an emergency or damage to facilities, there is the ability to reroute traffic to other facility routes. Currently all incoming and outgoing local and long distance traffic is routed over a fiber ring. In the case of damage to the fiber ring, a switchover of traffic flow on the ring is automatic. If the fiber ring goes down completely, there are IP trunks that traffic is manually routed to for completion.

Traffic Spikes

Should there be traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations, there is the ability to manually control line loads in the switch. During extreme emergencies and any resulting traffic spikes, priority is first given to first responders to allow their traffic to complete. Depending on the severity of the emergency situation and the amount of traffic, other traffic would be restricted if need be in order to give priority to first responders.

**(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data
Data Collection Form**

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FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	230494
<015>	Study Area Name	PINEVILLE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	7047827738 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	9.99

<703>

[illegible]

(710) Broadband Price Offerings Data Collection Form	REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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(710) Broadband Price Offerings Data Collection Form	REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<015>	Study Area Name	PINEVILLE TEL CO
-------	-----------------	------------------

(b)(7)(C)	Contact Name	Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
-----------	--------------	--	--------------

<03>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <03>	7817627790	Date:
<03>	C + 1 4 5 #144 5 #144 f	#144 5 #144 f	10-10-2010

[illegible][illegible]

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Pineville Telephone
Voice Services Rate Comparability
Line 1010

The FCC released a Public Notice on February 14, 2017 (DA 17-167) which listed the urban average rate as \$22.49 for residential customers. The same Public Notice listed the rate that is a reasonably comparable benchmark at \$49.51.

Pineville Telephone charges residential customers \$9.99 plus a federal Subscriber Line Charge of \$6.50 for monthly service with unlimited local calling. The total of these charges is \$16.49 which is less than the reasonably comparable benchmark of \$49.51.

Because of this, Pineville Telephone is able to certify that it's pricing of fixed voice service is no more than two standard deviations above the applicable national average urban rate for voice service.

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Pineville Telephone
Broadband Services Rate Comparability
Line 1020

The FCC released a Public Notice on February 14, 2017 (DA 17-167) which listed broadband rate benchmarks for some broadband service offerings. The Notice stated that benchmark rates for other service offerings could be calculated using the FCC Reasonable Comparability Benchmark Calculator found at <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/urban-rate-survey-data>. Pineville offers several residential products all with unlimited monthly usage. All prices are below the FCC benchmark rates as shown below:

Broadband Offering	Pineville Price	FCC Reasonable Benchmark Rate
50M x 5M (12 mth rate)	\$ 84.99	\$ 99.88
30M x 5M	\$ 82.99	\$ 93.17
20M x 2M	\$ 62.99	\$ 87.41
10M x 1M	\$ 52.99	\$ 77.98
8M x .768M	\$ 49.99	\$ 75.05
4M x .512M	\$ 39.99	\$ 65.94

Pineville's pricing meets the Commission's broadband public interest obligations by not charging more than the benchmark rate.

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Pineville Telephone
Lifeline Terms and Conditions
Line 1210

As a state regulated wireline carrier, Pineville Telephone offers Lifeline service in accordance with FCC rules and terms and conditions in its tariff. The terms and conditions of the tariff are included starting on the next page of this file.

Minutes of Use

Each Lifeline customer has unlimited local usage and is able to make local calls at no additional charge. Each Lifeline customer is also able to receive unlimited local and long distance calls at no additional charge.

Toll Charges

Each Lifeline customer is able to receive toll blocking to avoid incurring unexpected toll charges. In the event the customer would like to make toll calls then the customer is able to choose which long distance company they would like to use and then choose which rate plan is best for them.

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

PINEVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY
NORTH CAROLINA

ISSUED: November 28, 2016
By: MANAGER

SECTION 3
SIXTH REVISED PAGE 10
CANCELS FIFTH REVISED PAGE 10
EFFECTIVE: December 2, 2016

BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.12 Lifeline and Tribal Link Up Programs

- 3.12.1 (a) Description of programs. (R)
- (1) Lifeline service is a federally administered program providing a monthly discount to qualifying low-income consumers for voice telephone service or broadband service. (N)
 - (2) Tribal Link Up service is a federally administered program providing a discount to the customary charge for commencing telecommunications service to a qualifying consumer on Tribal lands.
- (b) Program eligibility.
In order to be eligible for assistance, a consumer must meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in Commission Rule R9-6 and 47 C.F.R. part 54, subpart E of the Federal Communications Commission's rules.
- (c) Verification of eligibility.
The method for verification of the eligibility criteria set forth in (b) above shall be a national eligibility verifier. Until the national eligibility verifier has been established to verify eligibility in North Carolina, the verification method will be self-certification by the recipients of the eligible programs.
- (d) Support.
The monthly recurring and one-time connection discount provided to consumers through the Lifeline and Link Up programs is set forth in 47 C.F.R. part 54, subpart E of the Federal Communications Commission's rules. (N)

3.12.2 Regulations (D)

DOCKET NO. P-100 SUB 133f
Allowed To Become Effective Pursuant
To G.S. 62-130 and G.S. 62-134

DEC - 1 2016

FILED
N.C. UTILITIES COMMISSION

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

PINEVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY
NORTH CAROLINA

ISSUED: November 28, 2016
By: MANAGER

SECTION 3
THIRD REVISED PAGE 11
CANCELS SECOND REVISED PAGE 11
EFFECTIVE: December 2, 2016

LIFELINE (Continued)

3.12.2 Regulations (continued)

(D)

DOCKET NO. P-100 SUB 133f
Allowed To Become Effective Pursuant
To G.S. 62-130 and G.S. 62-134

DEC - 1 2016

FILED
N.C. UTILITIES COMMISSION

(D)

REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

PINEVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY
NORTH CAROLINA

ISSUED: November 28, 2016

By: MANAGER

SECTION 3

SIXTH REVISED PAGE 12

CANCELS FIFTH REVISED PAGE 12

EFFECTIVE: December 2, 2016

LIFELINE (Continued)

3.12.3 Rate and Charges

(D)

DOCKET NO. P-100 SUB 133f
Allowed To Become Effective Pursuant
To G.S. 62-130 and G.S. 62-134

DEC - 1 2016

FILED
N.C. UTILITIES COMMISSION

(D)

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Pineville Telephone
Public Interest Obligations Certification
Line 3010

Certification

During 2016, Pineville Telephone Company certifies that it took reasonable steps to provide broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream upon reasonable request.

Services are provided with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol. Customers receive an unlimited capacity each month

Pineville did not provide broadband service to any new community anchor institutions.

There were no requests from schools and libraries for broadband service posted as FCC Form 470's for Pineville to bid on.

MARTIN ♦ STARNES & ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.

"A Professional Association of Certified Public Accountants and Management Consultants"

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and
Members of the Town Council
Town of Pineville, North Carolina

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Pineville, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Pineville's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Pineville, North Carolina, as of June 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance Schedule of Funding Progress, Other Post-Employment Benefits' Schedules of Funding Progress and Employer Contributions, and the Local Government Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of the financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consist of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary and Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Pineville's basic financial statements. The individual fund financial statements, budget and actual schedules, and supplemental ad valorem tax schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The individual fund financial statements, budget and actual schedules, and the supplemental ad valorem tax schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures; including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the individual fund financial statements, budget and actual schedules, and the supplemental ad valorem tax schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

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Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 19, 2016 on our consideration of the Town of Pineville's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Pineville's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Hickory, North Carolina
October 19, 2016

TOWN OF PINEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

TOWN OF PINEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

TOWN OF PINEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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Exhibit H

TOWN OF PINEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA